(b) what was the estimated amount for the scheme of a canal of a reduced section proposed by the Special Assistant Engineer;

(c) has the amount budgetted for the work been transferred to any other work?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) 4,826 acres inclusive of 457·16 acres of single crop and 748·29 acres of double crop lands.

(b) No estimate has yet been prepared and so no answer is possible.

(c) Yes.

Mr A. Eachara Menon.—Was not this amount budgetted for after due consideration of the work to be done?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes, at the time of preparing the budget.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Why was this amount transferred to other purposes?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The question of the productive capacity of the work was then discussed and the economic depression necessitated that we shall not be able to charge an enhanced rate in the present condition and fall in the price of raddy on all these lands which will be benefited by the present work. Therefore the work was put of for better times.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Is it the policy of the Government that they will spend money on productive works only hereafter?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Expenditure on Nelliampathy Ghat road.

458. **Mr. A. Eachara Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) what was the amount spent on the Nelliampathy Ghat road;

(b) what income does this road bring to the Government?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) Rs. 4,11,553—10—11.

(b) As there is no separate toll for the Ghat road, it is not possible to ascertain the income from this road separately.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Has there been any increase in the collection of tolls after the allotment was made?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—No.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Did the Government get anything by way of remuneration?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It is too early to say. Lands have not yet been sold. We must wait till the lands are sold.

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Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Did not the Government consider what will be their income if they spend so big an amount before they began the work?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—What is the object of spending such a large amount of money?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—For opening the tea estates in the Nelliampathy road sides.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Have there been any new estates opened subsequent to the opening of the road?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—What acreage?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—About 2,500 acres have been taken under tea plantation.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—What is the revenue that the Government derive from the Nelliampathy Hills at present?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I want notice.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—What is the acreage that is available for the Government to assign to private parties?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—About 5,000 acres.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—What is the average annual income that the Government expects to get from the lands hereafter?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I cannot say off-hand. When it was first investigated we thought we could get a return of this capital at 8%.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—What was the estimated amount for these roads?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It is about the same as is given in the answer.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—In answer to question No. 457 it was stated that the work was put off because it was not productive. In the answer to this question it is stated that the work was done thinking that some amount would be brought to the coffers of the Government.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The work was started when the financial depression was not in existence; when the work was completed this depression came in.

Point of Order: re. **Supplementary Questions.**

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—On a point of order. There are some questions in the name of Mr. K. T. Mathew. He is absent. Are we allowed to put supplementary questions?

President.—It has been ruled by the President that no supplementary questions can be put when the Member in whose name the original question stands, is absent when his name is called out by the Secretary.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—So these questions are not answered. Will they appear in the proceedings?

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Mr. C. J. Mathew.—They will appear.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—If they will appear, we have a right to question.

President.—A ruling was already given.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Is it the ruling that these will not be taken as answered?

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—If the Member happens to be absent when his name is called out by the Secretary, the question standing in his name in the printed list of questions placed on the table is not considered to have been formally put by that Member in the Council. So, other Members are not permitted to put supplementary questions. That is the ruling already given by the President. Since the printed answer is already here before the Council it will surely find a place in the Couucil proceedings even if the Member is aqsent.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—My point of order is whether these answers that are put down here—by the Secretary calling the names of the Members—whether these will appear in the printed proceedings of the Council if the Member is absent.

President.—According to the present practice they will appear. The matter has also been referred to some of the other Councils.

Improvement of road from Moongilmada to Kunnamkattupathy anicut.

459. **Mr. A Eachara Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(1) was there not an allotment in 1107 budget for the improvement of the road from the Moongilmada road to Kunnamkattupathy anicut;

(2) did not the Chief Engineer say on behalf of the Government that that road will be taken up this year even though no allotment is made this year;

(3) how far has the work progressed?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) Yes.

(2) The Chief Engineer does not remember to have made such a promise.

(3) The estimate for the work has been completed. The work has not been taken up for want of funds. If it becomes possible to find funds by transfer the work will be taken up this year.

Payment of cost of Co-operative Account books and registers.

460. **Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to inform.—

(a) (1) whether the Registrar of Co-operative Societies owes any liability to the Government, firms or individuals on account of cost of Co-operative account books and registers; (2)

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